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*Golden Anniversary of
The Typothetae*



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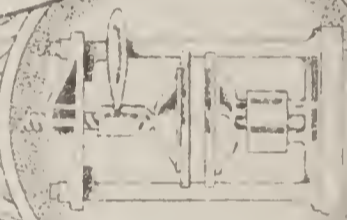
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Thos. d. De Linne



C. H. Howard



First President of the New York Typothetae

First Secretary of the New York Typothetae

✓ FIFTY YEARS
OF
THE TYPOTHETAE
OF THE
CITY OF NEW YORK ✓



*Commemorative Exercises
and Exhibit
April 13, 1915*

NEW YORK
PUBLISHED BY THE TYPOTHETAE
1915

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The Exercises

“LET us, then, fellow members of the same noble fraternity—
let us all agree that we will, while engaged in the practice of our
noble art, aim to improve and exalt its productions. Let us count
no sacrifice too great, no labor too severe, which promises superiority!
Let us neglect nothing which will make us better printers.”

From an address delivered at the first banquet of New York
employing printers, February 23, 1863, by Peter C. Baker,
who in 1865 named the new organization “The Typothetae.”



The Golden Anniversary Meeting, April 15, 1915

THE EXERCISES

*Held April 13, 1915, in commemoration of the Golden Anniversary
of The Typothetae of the City of New York*



IN RECOGNITION of the work of those employing printers who during the days of the Civil War met together and gave thought to the welfare of their beloved industry, Printing, and whose labors resulted years afterward in a great national organization and in inestimable good to the entire business, members of The Typothetae of the City of New York met the evening of Tuesday, April 13, 1915. The event was the fiftieth anniversary of the inauguration of The Typothetae, and the meeting was preceded by a dinner at Lüchow's, 110 East Fourteenth Street.

Historical souvenirs relating to The Typothetae were chronologically arranged in cases and frames at one end of the room, and a pamphlet in the typographic style of 1865 was placed at each plate.

As this was also the regular monthly meeting of the organization, routine business was transacted that included an election of officers. The new list of officers was announced as follows: President, Frederick Alfred; vice-president, R. W. Smith; vice-president, Gustav Zeese; secretary, R. H. Middle-ditch; treasurer, James R. Thomson; executive committee, James W. Bothwell, George B. Carter, William Green, John A. Hill, G. Frederick Kalkhoff, E. M. Lent, John Clyde Oswald, William E. Rudge, Frederick Triggs, Edmund Wolcott; trustees, L. H. Biglow, I. H. Blanchard, A. T. De La Mare, Charles Francis, Joseph Gantz, A. Stanley Graff, M. L. Gris-

wold, Willis McDonald, Nelson Macy, William E. Rudge, Robert Schalkenbach, Karl M. Schlueter, George R. Valentine, William F. Vanden Houten, Gustav Zeese.

The newly elected president, Frederick Alfred, was then introduced by the retiring president, James W. Bothwell. The interesting fact was revealed that Messrs. Alfred and Bothwell represented two of the oldest member houses of The Typothetae—the J. W. Pratt Company and the DeVinne Press.

President Alfred expressed appreciation of the honor conferred on him and requested that Mr. Bothwell preside during the evening's exercises. President Alfred continued: "Gentlemen, you have given me a position that demands everything there is in me to make a success of it. Your retiring president made such a wonderful record with the Typothetae work during the past two years that it is going to be difficult to follow him. You remember that the cost congress held in New York two years ago was a great success, not only in the work it did and in attendance, but the finances were so well managed that he rebated to you a dividend of twenty per cent. And then the convention just held last October was the greatest the United Typothetae has ever had. He worked hard at that, and the dividends returned to contributors amounted to over thirty-three and one-third per cent. Now I would like every person here to get on his feet so that we can give a vote of appreciation to Mr. James W. Bothwell, the retiring president of this organization. All up!" (All stood, and applauded heartily.)

Mr. Bothwell acknowledged the tribute, and then, referring to the exhibit that was a feature of the Golden Anniversary exercises, announced that it would be kept intact for some time in the Typographic Library and Museum at Jersey City.

The Golden Anniversary exercises were then opened by an address on the fifty years of The Typothetae, by Mr. Edmund G. Gress, editor of The American Printer.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE NEW YORK TYPOTHETAE

By Edmund G. Gress

THE New York Typothetae was formally inaugurated March 21, 1865. When Messrs. Alvord, Baker, Smith, Trow, Martin, DeVinne and other New York employing printers gathered for that meeting, Abraham Lincoln was President at Washington; Grant was giving final battle to Lee, and Horace Greeley was at work in the editorial rooms of the Tribune. It was only several weeks prior to the surrender of Lee at Appomattox, April 9, and to the assassination of Lincoln, April 14; in fact, some of the early minutes of the New York Typothetae contain resolutions on the death of the great President. War then, as now fifty years after, had interfered with industry and made it necessary for employing printers to meet, organize and coöperate for business betterment.

The inaugural meeting of The Typothetae was held Tuesday evening, March 21, 1865, at Dodworth's Hall, 806 Broadway. This hall was not far from where the present meeting is being held. Forty-two members signed, and forty-one paid the initiation fee of five dollars, according to the minutes kept by Secretary DeVinne. These officers were elected at this meeting: President, C. A. Alvord; vice-president, John W. Oliver; secretary, Theodore L. DeVinne; treasurer, R. Harmer Smith; directors, Peter C. Baker, William C. Martin, John F. Trow, E. O. Jenkins, Henry Ludwig, Robert Craighead, George Mantz, J. F. Baldwin, J. J. Reed. The constitution as adopted named the organization the "Typothetae," and its membership included "any master printer, stereotyper or electrotyper . . . paying an initiation fee of five dollars." The dues were placed at two dollars each quarter. Meetings were to be held every three months.

There is natural curiosity as to why "Typothetae" was chosen as the name of this organization. I asked Mr. DeVinne about it a short time before his death. He said that at a meeting of the promoters of the movement they were considering various titles, such as "Employing Printers' Association," and "Society for the Improvement of the Printing Trade," when Peter C. Baker, of the firm of Baker & Godwin, whose printing office was located in the Tribune Building, suggested as a short title the one word "Typothetae." Mr. Baker, who was fond of old books, had come across mention of a printers' society bearing that title which at one time existed in Germany, and the name appealed to him.

It is possible that Peter Baker obtained the name from a book by T. C. Hansard, published in London in 1825, for in that volume is this: "I cannot find that Gutenberg was encouraged in his labors by the smiles of royal influence. This is the most remarkable, as the then reigning sovereign of Germany, Frederick III., was a monarch deeply versed in the learning of the times; the emperor permitted printers to wear gold and silver, and granted coat-armor to the *Typothetae* to perpetuate the honor of the discovery. This armorial bearing is still claimed by professors of the art in Germany. To their Printer's Manual is attached the engraving of which the vignette in the title-page of this work is a reduced copy." This coat-armor referred to by Hansard, and used on the title-page of his book, furnished copy for the coat-of-arms of the present New York Typothetae and also for that of the United Typothetae and Franklin Clubs of America.

The reign of Frederick III., who recognized the German Typothetae, was from 1440 to 1493. Gutenberg, it will be recalled, printed from 1450 to 1466.

The word "Typothetae" comes from the Greek τύπος (*typos*), meaning "type," and θετός (*thetos*), verbal adjective,

from τίθεναι (*tithenai*), meaning "setting," "putting" or "placing." In Greek the word would probably be accented on the third syllable, as the general rule of Greek accent would forbid placing the accent two syllables away from a long vowel or a diphthong. The custom among printers of accenting the second syllable can be justified on the ground that it is used as an English word, and English words are accented as far back as possible from the end of the word.

Before the formal inauguration of The Typothetae in 1865 a few of New York's employing printers had been meeting more or less regularly as an executive committee, or a sort of Printers' Board of Trade. The movement began soon after Theodore L. DeVinne became a member of the firm of Francis Hart & Co. in 1859, when he, Peter C. Baker, C. A. Alvord and others met at lunch to talk over business matters. These informal gatherings culminated in a general council of employing printers December 26, 1862, followed by a dinner at the St. Nicholas Hotel on February 23, 1863, at which John F. Trow presided. In giving an account of this meeting the "American Dictionary of Printing and Bookmaking" erroneously states that "The new association was then and there christened the Typothetae." Mr. DeVinne assured me that this title was not adopted until 1865, and the records also show that fact.

The rather informal organization that existed before 1865 was usually designated "The Employing Printers' Association" or "The Printers of New York," and the purpose seemed to be to have employing printers meet together mainly for the adoption of trade prices.

The second annual dinner was held at the St. Nicholas Hotel the evening of February 29, 1864.

There were meetings January 4 and March 2, 1865, and, as I have said, The Typothetae was inaugurated March 21, 1865.

What happened to The Typothetae during its first year of existence is set forth in a report of the Board of Directors, from which I will quote a few sentences: "The projectors of The Typothetae anticipated the active support of at least three-fourths of all the employing printers of the city; the fitting up of a handsomely furnished room as a place of meeting; the establishment of a fund; the discussion of practical questions connected with printing, and a collation or some social festivity at every general quarterly meeting. At the first meeting forty-two names were entered on the roll; at the second but seven names; at the third and fourth there was no quorum. The success of the society depended on the support given by the trade; this failing, all the special advantages that had been contemplated fell with it. Yet we are not discouraged."

At the second quarterly meeting of The Typothetae, May 16, 1865, a revised scale of prices was agreed upon. This scale of prices was afterward developed by Mr. DeVinne into a book called "The Printers' Price List."

The meeting of November 14, 1865, at which there was no quorum present, was an informal one held at the office of Baker & Godwin in the Tribune Building. A letter was read from Charles W. Felt, who claimed to have invented a machine that would set, space, justify, lead and distribute type. Large machines were to be made for large offices and small machines for small offices. The inventor wrote: "It is plain that a country newspaper cannot afford to pay four thousand dollars for a machine, while they could pay one hundred or even four hundred dollars."

A convention of master printers (probably the first "cost congress") was held February 20, 1866, in New York. Boston, Springfield, Hartford, New Haven, Albany, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Chicago, New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore had each been invited to send two delegates, but only Boston,

Cambridge, Hartford and New York were represented. H. O. Houghton was present from Cambridge; Messrs. Rand, Potter and Mudge from Boston; Messrs. Lockwood and Eaton from Hartford; and Messrs. Alvord, Trow and Martin from New York.

There was a discussion at this convention of the respective merits of Adams presses and cylinder presses. It was alleged by Mr. Lockwood that the cylinder press was capable of producing as fine work as the Adams, but especially it possessed a great advantage in the working of dry paper; however, he conceded the superiority of the Adams for the general run of bookwork. Messrs. Rand and Alvord contended that the Adams press was the only instrument for the steady production of uniformly good bookwork, but the fact was acknowledged that so fine a work as the London Art Journal was printed on a cylinder press.

On March 23, 1866, a remarkable thing happened. Every master printer, stereotyper and electrotyper in New York City became a member of The Typothetae. New York employing printers of the present day can pause in their amalgamation and federation work and look back with wonder at the day when an employing printers' association of New York City was, so far as membership is concerned, a hundred-per-cent organization. The great task was accomplished by placing on the rolls the names of all New York master printers, stereotypers and electrotypers, and abolishing initiation fees and dues. The executive committee then became the "Board of Trade," which met at any time it cared to. At this meeting the treasurer reported a deficit of \$60.70. After collectable dues and assessments were paid in, there would remain thirty cents in the treasury.

Upon the death of George Bruce, the typefounder, July 5, 1866, the Board of Trade attended the funeral.

There was another dinner February 21, 1867.

The next meeting of which I found record was held May 22, 1867, at the rooms of the Typographical Society, and it was the familiar "general meeting." President Alvord tendered his resignation, and new officers were elected: President, W. C. Martin; vice-president, J. J. Hallenbeck; secretary, Theodore L. De Vinne; treasurer, E. O. Jenkins. W. C. Martin, chosen as president at this meeting, was afterward selected for the same office at the revival of The Typothetae in 1883.

A dinner was held February 21, 1868, at the St. Nicholas.

From 1868 to 1883 very little was done collectively in employing printers' organization work in New York City.

A meeting was held at the Astor House, June 18, 1872 (William C. Martin in the chair), to consider the demands of the Typographical Union for twenty dollars a week and an eight-hour day. The employers' committee that met representatives of the union three days later consisted of M. B. Wynkoop, of Wynkoop & Hallenbeck; E. O. Jenkins; R. H. Smith, of Smith & McDougall; John Polhemus; S. W. Green; J. J. Little, of Lange, Little & Hillman; Theodore L. De Vinne, of Francis Hart & Co. In a pamphlet by Mr. De Vinne reviewing conditions of the trade at that time, he points out that in 1862 the weekly wages for job and book work were eleven dollars; piece rate, thirty-three cents.

According to *The American Printer* (then the *American Bookmaker*) of May, 1891, there was another meeting of employing printers at the Astor House in 1874, at which Mr. Martin again presided.

A circular, now a part of this exhibit, shows that a meeting was called for the Monday following June 3, 1876, at the Astor House, to consider a "reduced scale" submitted by the committee of the Typographical Union.

Thirty-two years ago, mainly through the efforts of Douglas

Taylor, the New York Typothetae was revived. The first meeting took place at the Astor House, November 20, 1883.

The organization was perfected at a second meeting at the Astor House, December 11, 1883, and William C. Martin (who had headed The Typothetae in 1867) was chosen president, the other officers being: Vice-presidents, Theodore L. DeVinne and John F. Trow; secretary, Jesse B. Thomas, Jr.; treasurer, Albert B. King; executive committee, Douglas Taylor, J. J. Little, M. B. Brown, John Polhemus, J. A. Rogers.

Since 1883 the New York Typothetae has continued uninterruptedly, with the following presidents: William C. Martin, from 1883 to 1891; Theodore L. DeVinne, from 1891 to 1898; J. J. Little, from 1898 to 1903; William Green, from 1903 to 1908; Robert Schalkenbach, from 1908 to 1911; Edmund Wolcott, from 1911 to 1913; James W. Bothwell, from 1913 to 1915; Frederick Alfred, 1915.

It is a pleasing coincidence that just fifty years after the inauguration of the first New York Typothetae, of which Theodore L. DeVinne was an officer, the president of The Typothetae should be one of Mr. DeVinne's business associates—James W. Bothwell, manager of the DeVinne Press.

Another coincidence is that the new head of the New York Typothetae has the same name, with the exception of two letters, as that of the first head of The Typothetae in 1865—President Alvord, then; President Alfred, now.

Mr. Henry Lewis Bullen, librarian of the Typographic Library and Museum of the American Type Founders Company, was then introduced and talked of the employing printers of 1865.

A RETROSPECT OF FIFTY YEARS

By Henry Lewis Bullen

THE world was fifty years younger in 1865. We err when we call bygone times the old times. We are the ancients. Gutenberg is the infant printer; the printers of today are four and a half centuries older in craftsmanship. Gutenberg invented the essential things when he made the first types and the first press: all that follows has been elaboration and improvement of his great idea.

In 1865 printing machinery and appliances were as fully adequate to current needs as our machinery is to present needs. Inventions are not forced by the demands of the printers. They are forced by the demands of the printers' customers—ever-increasing demands, to meet which the resources of 1915 will be as inadequate fifty years hence as our facilities would have been unnecessary in 1865. There are young men in this audience who may live to see the proof of this prediction.

The men of 1865 lived in a period in which all inventions then in use were relatively and in many instances actually more marvelous than those of any period before or since. "Steam Printing Office" was a sign only to be found on the larger plants; but what of that, in a time when many men were living who had seen the first steam engine used in America? That was a British invention, but the young Republic had during the lives of the men of 1865 assumed a leadership in invention that it has ever since easily maintained. The steamship, the cotton gin, the reaping machine, the vulcanization of rubber, the electric telegraph, the sewing machine, the monitor which revolutionized naval warfare—all these were marvelous, and they were "made in America" before 1865.

In the printing field America had easily taken a lead in invention which it has never lost. A majority of the original

members of this Typothetae had entered business when all printing was done on wooden hand presses and all paper cutting was done on plow paper cutters. They had seen the wooden hand press superseded by the all-iron "Washington" in 1819; the arrival of the first cylinder press from England in 1827; the building of a copy of that press by Hoe in the same year; the invention of the Adams power platen press in 1830; the invention of the Hoe type-revolving press in 1847. They had seen the impressions of a printing press increase from 250 to 25,000 per hour in 1847, and this capacity on the eve of being largely increased by Bullock's invention of the first practicable web perfecting press in 1863. All the great newspapers of the world in 1865 were printed on fast presses not only invented but made in America. America also gave to the world the two-revolution press and the small job platen presses, which were still new to the printers of 1865. The first self-inking treadle platen or "job" press was used in Boston in 1838. It was the invention of S. P. Ruggles, upon whose ideas George P. Gordon effected important improvements in the early fifties. Two-revolution presses were in the beginning made in sizes as small as 13x16-inch bed, printing 9½x12 inches, as well as in larger sizes for book and news work. However, the earlier two-revolution presses did not register well, and stop-cylinder presses were considered necessary for register work. It took a quarter of a century to learn how to make two-revolution presses that would register, and now we are about to return to the use of small jobbing two-revolution presses. At a meeting in New York of master printers from New England, Philadelphia and New York in 1865 there was an interesting debate on the subject of presswork. The general opinion was that book printing could not be done on a cylinder press so well as on an Adams power platen press. Now the Adams is a relic; only half a dozen are in present use. One was offered to the Typographic Library the other day. As it

takes the floor space of a 56-inch two-revolution, we reluctantly declined the gift, and passed it on to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington.

Printers in 1865 could remember the introduction of stereotyping from England in 1813. They were using electrotypes made by an American who first applied that art in the reproduction of type forms in Boston in 1842. They had seen the first curved stereotyped plates used in this city in 1861. They had seen the first folding machine, an American invention. Americans had invented the first typesetting machine. The printers in 1865 could choose between the Mitchell, the Alden and the Burr typesetting machines, and quite a number were in use.

In typecasting Bruce's first successful invention of a typecasting machine had supplanted the hand mold all over the world. That was in 1838, although typecasting machines had been in the experimental stages in America since 1805. In 1865 American typefounders first began to set the fashions in type-faces to the world. Up to 1865 our type-faces were derived from Europe; since then Europe has in the main preferred Roman type designs of American origin.

Little can be said in praise of the quality of printing in 1865, judged by our standards. Compared with printing in other countries, except France, America was then a little ahead on the average. The American printing of 1865 was marked by progressiveness. There was a steady improvement. The printers were progressive. They later on absolutely abolished the use of wet paper and introduced hard packing in advance of other nations. In 1846 an American (Adams, in the Harper establishment) first used overlays on woodcuts, and from that time American printers excelled in woodcut printing, and brought that art to the apex of its perfection a few years before it was superseded by the halftone process.

Printing as a whole was crude in 1865, but everything in the Republic was crude—crude but grand! It was the time to break new ground, to sweep away forests, to subdue mountain barriers, to bridge the great rivers, and to lay the foundations of all the material progress that we enjoy. Making a clearing in the forest is crude, rough work; but it has to be done before the rich crops wave and the roses bloom around humble, comfortable, or palatial homesteads.

The printers of 1865 lived in the heroic times of the Republic. They saw it emerge by means of blood and iron into a splendid manhood. They doubtless had grand thoughts; we know they had grand aspirations. These were best expressed by the Grand Old Man of American typography, Theodore Low DeVinne. He more than any other man taught us how to print in our present method. He was the youngest of the group of the originators of this Typothetae. He was the last to leave us. Analyze every successful movement and you will find behind it one man, the conceiver of the idea and at the same time the willing worker. DeVinne was that man in the organization and management of this Typothetae. There is ample evidence that DeVinne was the originator of the plan to form The Typothetae and the compiler of the "Prices for Printing."* He was then thirty-six years of age. We cannot honor him too much. The measure of our stature as printers is the measure of the honor we voluntarily accord to DeVinne, the safe and sound citizen and ideal printer.

In 1865 there were in this city two hundred and three "book and job" printing plants. All these except nineteen have disappeared, together with many more which were begun since 1865. To have survived is an honorable distinction. Permit me to read the roll of honor. As it was hastily compiled it may not be quite complete: L. H. Biglow & Co.; Martin B. Brown Company; Burr Printing House (then John A. Gray & Green);

*See note under item No. 20 in Catalogue of Exhibits.

Caulon Press (then Raymond & Caulon); Corlies, Macy & Co.; Peter De Baun & Co.; DeVinne Press (then Francis Hart & Co.); Eagle Job Print (Brooklyn); Harper & Brothers; Chauncey Holt & Co. (then Holt Brothers); Willis McDonald & Co. (then Baker & Godwin); MacGowan & Slipper (then Sun Job Print); George F. Nesbitt & Co. (now the oldest commercial printing business in the city); John Polhemus Company; J. W. Pratt Company; Douglas Taylor & Co. (successor of Mahlon Day); Trow Press (then John F. Trow Company); Wynkoop Hallenbeck Crawford Company (then Wynkoop & Hallenbeck).

In business today, though not in direct succession, there are William Green, one-time president of this Typothetae, son of S. W. Green, of John A. Gray & Green, and Louis H. Orr, of the Orr Press, son of John W. Orr, the distinguished wood engraver, who had his printing establishment in Nassau Street in 1865.

The surviving bookbinders are Boorum & Pease (then Miles, Boorum & Co.), Robert Rutter & Son (then Robert Rutter), and Asa L. Shipman's Sons (then Asa L. Shipman).

This, then, is our "Old Guard." May they never surrender! May they answer the roll call at our centennial celebration in 1965! To the younger concerns no worthier or more stimulating ambition can be urged than a determination to establish so solidly their businesses that they may become members of the "Invincibles" of 1965.

There was present as the special guest of the evening Mr. Willis McDonald, of Willis McDonald & Co., whose printing business descended from that of Baker & Godwin, of which Peter C. Baker, who named The Typothetae, was a member. Mr. McDonald was asked to say a few words and he responded as follows:

A TRIBUTE TO ORGANIZATION

By Willis McDonald

YOU will excuse me if I read just a little response in appreciation of this great honor conferred upon me tonight of being called the "oldest living representative" of the formation of this society. I have been surprised many times in my life, but never more so than when I received the invitation to be your guest on this, the fiftieth anniversary of the society. I assure you I greatly appreciate the honor and the privilege of sitting down in fellowship and harmony with my associates, with old and new friends, and I trust we shall always dwell together in unity and good-fellowship.

As to being the oldest living member of this society, it surprised me when I learned it. I am afraid that much of the time I have been an unworthy member, and have not been in evidence at many of the meetings in these later years, and have given but little service to the society. The formation of this society has been justified by time, and the fraternal spirit that has actuated its members, and the service they have rendered these many years now gone, for the best interests of the printing industry, have been fine; for, after all has been said, the highest ideal is one of brotherhood and of service to one another.

Memory brings up the names of many grand men who are not with us tonight—men who put in all the brain and brawn and service they possibly could, to advance the interests of this society. They have gone to their reward, while we have entered into their labors, and are reaping the benefits of their labors.

The history of this society would fill a good-sized volume, not to mention the names of such men as William C. Martin, Theodore L. DeVinne, Peter C. Baker, Douglas Taylor and many others who served their day and generation well. We would do well to strive to follow their teachings in many ways.

Let us get a broader view of our responsibilities and opportunities of serving one another, touching elbows a little closer as our ranks get thinner, on the march to the Eternal Hills. Let us go on with courage, faith and hope dominated by the highest ideals of the brotherhood of mankind.

As we grow older and the shadows begin to lengthen, and the leaves which seemed so thick in youth above our heads grow thin and show the sky beyond; as those in the ranks in front drop away and we come in sight, as we all must, of the eternal rifle pits beyond, we begin to feel that among the really precious things of life, more lasting and more substantial than many of the objects of ambition here, is the love of those we love, and the friendship of those whose friendship we prize.

Mr. Homer Lee, founder of the Homer Lee Bank Note Company, was called upon by the chairman, and responded humorously in these words:

EXPERIENCES OF A BANK-NOTE PRINTER

By Homer Lee

WHEN in London once I followed into the Bank of England printing office an old gentleman who they said was Senator Cameron, and as I saw him register his name in the book I walked over and looked at it, and this is what it said: "Cameron, Printer." He was prouder that he was a printer than of the fact that he was a public man.

My experience as a printer is a rather checkered one. I came to New York and the first year I was a printer's devil down in John Street at \$2.50 a week, and I was just about the same size then that I am now. At the end of the first year I put out my sign on the savings that I made at that salary. That carried me along the second year. The third year I hung out my sign,

"Homer Lee & Company." The fourth year I hung it out "Homer Lee Bank Note Company," and that was a joke; everybody in the engraving business laughed but me.

Getting along so rapidly, I thought I would try to get on the Stock Exchange, so I applied down there and got fired off every Friday afternoon for just six years. One day there was something going on when a couple of bankers who were very instrumental in keeping me off were absent, and on that day I got on. That was four o'clock in the afternoon. At four o'clock in the morning a cat upset a kerosene lamp, and you know what that does to a printing office; it certainly did it all right for me. I read it in the newspaper. I ran down and there it was, sure enough. All the windows were out and the roof was out, but the presses, they were in—the cellar. At nine o'clock that morning Garfield was shot and New York went into immediate mourning, but the first one that got up the entire black front that covered the windows that were burnt out was myself. You would never know that there had been a fire there. I then got about forty Italians to haul away the debris and commenced the work of reconstruction.

Now remember, the Stock Exchange required that the plant should be housed in fireproof premises (and they require a whole lot of things that are mighty hard to meet), but "fireproof premises" is about the first thing on the list. And they never found it out up to now. I was afraid to tell it, but I know what printers are, and you can sometimes give out your secrets among fellow printers. Still I finished it up, and somehow or other I found I had one floor vacant; that was the top floor, and I thought I would put in an advertisement. So I put in one advertisement in one newspaper once. One man answered it; in one hour he signed the lease, in one day he commenced to move, and in one week he was there. He held the fort on the top floor for quite a while, and he had one of these Baxter

engines. A Baxter engine is something like a barrel—a big saturated barrel with a very active top somewhat given to making noise. Well, this engine of his went along all right until a belt broke and it tipped, broke loose from its moorings, rolled out through the house and would have gone out the window if it had not been stopped.

Mr. Herbert L. Baker was noticed in the audience and in response to an invitation from the chairman addressed the meeting:

EXPERIENCES OF A TYPOTHETAE MEMBER

By Herbert L. Baker

I WANT to tell you my first experience in The Typothetae. I was in the printing business in St. Paul, and joined The Typothetae there twenty-five or thirty years ago. The dues were \$10, and \$10 were hard to raise in those days in the printing business in St. Paul. Well, it was our custom on Saturday night, my partner and myself, to get together and figure out the bills for the important items which had been finished up during the week. The very next Saturday night we had to figure up a job of labels for a paint house that had a fire. They were accustomed to pay us so much a thousand for labels, one lot printed at a time as needed. The fire spoiled all their labels and gave us many thousands to print at once. We printed them on a cylinder press—our only cylinder press; we had paid only \$100 on it, but still I called it ours. We figured up that job at \$95 and made out a bill. I said to my partner, "Hold on a minute; we have \$10 Typothetae dues to pay; why not put that on the bill?" So we made the bill \$105. That looked very simple, and my partner said, "We will have to pay next year, so why not put in \$10 more and make it \$115?" "Well," I said, "while we

are about it, let us put in the third year; this is easy." And so we made a new bill for \$125. Then we stopped and figured up what that patron would have had to pay for those labels separately at the price we had been charging, and we found they would have cost him \$215. So we made a price of \$195, and the customer thanked us for the concession of \$20 from our regular price. You see, my membership in The Typothetae the first week made me \$100.

For the first time I got the idea that the cost of doing a job of printing was not the only criterion of its selling value, and that idea has been of great value to me in a business way ever since. Now, if I love The Typothetae, if I believe in The Typothetae, if I have done any work in The Typothetae, it is because of the business training I got from it, of which this \$100 was the first example. I realize now that I sadly needed such training, and I suspect there are still a few in the business who need it. We ought to stand by the organization, not only because it is a good thing for others, but it is a good thing for ourselves; it dignifies the business and puts competition on a higher plane; and while it puts money in our pockets, it makes us mindful of the interests of our fellows. I hope I may be allowed to be a member of this organization as long as I live—and then some. The Baker family was represented at the organization of The Typothetae fifty years ago, and a young "chip" of it is present with me tonight, who I hope may attend the one hundredth anniversary fifty years hence, and tell them about this splendid gathering.

Speaking of fifty years hence, one cannot help wondering how printing will be done at that time. The last thirty years have seen more changes in printing methods and machinery than occurred during all the previous history of the art. Changes are occurring now with bewildering variety and swiftness. When The Typothetae celebrates its one hundredth anniversary, elec-

tricity may be printing all the copies of a job at one contact—any number of sheets from one to a million in a second of time; photography and chemicals may have superseded presses and ink as we know them; paper may be made from a light and flexible metal, indestructible and unchangeable. I say “may,” but can see at present no substantial reason for thinking that there will be any radical changes in the basic methods now used by the printer, though there will doubtless be great improvements in their details. Of one thing I’m sure: The Typothetae as an educational and mutually helpful institution will be just as useful and necessary as it is now. Tonight we reach out our hands across the years yet to be, and in spirit join in the centenary celebration of the New York Typothetae, with hearty good wishes for its success and prosperity during its second century.

Brief talks appropriate to the occasion were made by Messrs. W. F. Vanden Houten, F. A. Ringler, and others.

At the suggestion of Mr. H. H. Cooke a vote of appreciation was given by the meeting to Mr. Henry L. Bullen for the remarkable exhibit arranged for the occasion.

On motion of Mr. John Clyde Oswald the meeting voted that the proceedings of the evening be preserved in some special and permanent form for presentation to the members.

The Exhibit

THE *items that compose this notable exhibit are from the Typographic Library and Museum in Jersey City, established in 1908 by Mr. Robert W. Nelson, president of the American Type Founders Company. The books, prints, and relics in this library and museum were collected by Mr. Henry L. Bullen, and form the most important and comprehensive collection of direct interest to printers that can be found anywhere in the world.*



The Exhibit at the Golden Anniversary Meeting, April 15, 1915

THE EXHIBIT

*At the Golden Anniversary meeting as arranged and catalogued by
Mr. Henry Lewis Bullen; with a preliminary note*



THE earliest association of printers in New York was the Typographical Society, established in 1795 and continuing until 1797. Little is known of its history. It was an employee association, and succeeded in raising wages to one dollar per day of twelve hours. In 1799 the Franklin Typographical Society was organized, and continued until about 1804. It was composed of journeymen compositors and pressmen. David Bruce, afterwards eminent as a master printer and typefounder, and inventor of the plate-shaving machine and the "mahogany stereotype block," was its first president, and George Bruce, his brother and subsequent partner, was its first secretary. George Bruce's certificate of membership is No. 64 in this exhibit, and No. 63 is the broadside address of the society "To the Master Printers of New York," which contains a proposed wage scale and advocates a protective tariff on books. This address is not dated, but was doubtless issued in 1800. The scale, which advanced wages to seven dollars per week, went into effect and was current until 1809. In 1809 the New York Typographical Society was organized, and still is in existence as a mutual benefit association. Until 1818 it was a trades union; but in that year it became a benefit society and began to admit employing printers. In 1823 it instituted a library, which in 1856 had four thousand volumes for the use of members and "apprentices on guaranty of members." This society had its offices and rooms at No. 300 Broadway, corner of Chambers Street, and although a great majority

of its members were journeymen, the employing printers of New York held their meetings in the rooms of the New York Typographical Society. The Typothetae used the rooms of the Society during the first period of its activity. The annual banquets of the Society were important functions, always in celebration of Franklin's birthday, and reported at length in the newspapers. Three poster-programmes of the banquets in 1850, 1851 and 1853 are Nos. 69, 70 and 71 in this exhibit.

The first efforts to form a permanent organization of employing printers took shape in December, 1862, as we learn from an article in the *Typographic Advertiser* (Philadelphia), April, 1863, probably written by De Vinne. Several meetings were held between that time and February 23, 1863, when the first banquet of employing printers was held at the St. Nicholas Hotel, a detailed report of which is given in the article referred to above. The first item in this exhibit is the card of admission to that banquet. The employing printers continued to meet irregularly in the rooms of the New York Typographical Society, and item No. 6 in this exhibit is a circular dated December 31, 1864, calling a meeting of the employing printers in the Society's rooms on January 4, 1865, at 1.30 P. M., at which meeting plans were made to establish The Typothetae. The next item in this exhibit is a circular dated February 15, 1865, calling a meeting at the office of Francis Hart & Co. to receive the "Report on Permanent Organization." This meeting was followed by a general meeting of the printing trade, called by circular (item No. 9) dated February 27, 1865, held in the rooms of the New York Typographical Society on March 2, 1865, at which the Executive Committee presented "A Plan for the Permanent Organization of the Master Printers of this City," and submitted for consideration printed copies of the "Constitution of the New Society." Then followed the meeting of March 21 at Dodworth's Hall, No. 806 Broadway, at which The Typothe-

tae was formally inaugurated and officers elected, after which business there was a dinner, the card for which is No. 11 exhibit.

We owe the preservation of this interesting consecutive series of historical documents to the scholarly sentiments of Theodore L. DeVinne and George Bruce, from whose collections of typographical souvenirs they have found a permanent place in the Typographic Library and Museum in Jersey City, which is open to visitors during all business hours. The historical souvenirs relating to The Typothetae are arranged in chronological order.—H. L. B.

INCEPTION OF THE TYPOTHETAE

1

Card: The printers' dinner, St. Nicholas Hotel, February 23, 1863. First banquet held by the employing printers of New York.

2

Pamphlet: The printers' dinner, February 22 (?), 1863. Address of Peter C. Baker, responding to the toast "Our Profession."

3

Card: The printers' dinner, St. Nicholas Hotel, 515 Broadway, February 29, 1864.

4

Card: Admission ticket to second dinner, February 29, 1864, issued to George Bruce, and signed "Theo. L. DeVinne, Sec'y."

5

Menu: Second annual dinner of the printers of New York, St. Nicholas Hotel, February 29, 1864. There are seventy-five items in this Gargantuan bill of fare.

6

Circular, December 31, 1864: Call for third annual meeting of employing printers of New York, for January 4, 1865.

It was at this meeting that it was decided to organize The Typothetae.

Circular dated February 15, 1865: Call for special meeting of Executive Committee of employing printers to be held at office of Francis Hart & Co., February 17, 1865, to consider the "Report of the Special Committee on Permanent Organization."

This is a proof copy with corrections in Mr. DeVinne's handwriting. Pasted on the back of this exhibit is a call for an earlier meeting at same place, dated January 14, 1865.

Circular dated February 20, 1865: Call for meeting of the Executive Committee to be held at the office of Francis Hart & Co., February 24, 1865, to consider "the Constitution for a Permanent Organization."

Circular, dated February 27, 1865: Call for a general meeting of the trade to be held in the rooms of the New York Typographical Society, No. 3 Chambers Street, on March 2, 1865, to hear "a Plan for the Permanent Organization of the Master Printers of this city. . . . Printed copies of the Constitution of a new Society, and a Statement of the Advantages to be derived, will then and there be submitted for consideration."

Pamphlet: Printed draft of the first Constitution of The Typothetae, submitted to a general meeting of master printers of New York City, at a meeting held March 2, 1865, and unanimously approved.

In this pamphlet the name "The Typothetae" first appears in print.

Card: Inauguration of The Typothetae, Tuesday evening, March 21, 1865, at Dodworth's Hall, 806 Broadway.

12

Minutes of the first meeting of The Typothetae, held at Dodworth's Hall, March 21, 1865, in the handwriting of Theodore L. DeVinne, secretary.

At this meeting The Typothetae was formally inaugurated, and the first officers were elected. Forty-two members personally signed the Roll Book.

13

First Constitution of The Typothetae, finally adopted at the inauguration meeting on March 21, 1865, together with autograph signatures of the original signers.

14

First Roll Book of The Typothetae.

15

Bill of March 25, 1865, rendered by Francis Hart & Co., for printing and stationery for the first meeting of The Typothetae.

An excellent example of "fine job printing" of the period.

16

Bill of March 21, 1865, rendered by Benjamin F. Howe, caterer to the inauguration dinner of The Typothetae.

EVOLUTION OF THE MOVEMENT FOR PROFITABLE PRICES

17

Prices for printing, 1818: Prices of printing agreed upon by the master printers of the City of New York, at a meeting held the 18th of September, 1815, on pages 212-219 of "The Printer's Guide, or an Introduction to the Art of Printing," by C. S. Van Winkle, printer to the University of New York, 1818.

This book is the first American textbook of printing. It contains, among other advertisements, that of M. Smith, 241 Pearl Street, manufacturer

of printers' materials. At this time Robert Hoe was working as a blacksmith for Smith, to whose business he succeeded, by marrying Smith's daughter.

18

Prices for printing, 1864: Prices for printing recommended by the employing printers of the City of New York in convention, February 2, 1864.

"(Proof copy, to be used for revision only.)" Known as the "Brown Cover Price Book," this was the work of Mr. DeVinne. It was signed by one hundred and nineteen master printers. In 1862 a four-page pamphlet of prices was adopted by the body of printers who afterwards formed The Typothetae (see DeVinne's preface to his "Printers' Price List" of 1869).

19

Prices for printing, 1864: Prices for printing adopted by the employing printers of the City of New York, February 11, 1864.

"The authentic copies of the Scale of Prices are bound in Drab Covers. . . . The copies bound in Brown Covers are Proof-Copies. . . . It is particularly requested that the Proof-Copies be destroyed, as many of the prices have been changed."

This price list was signed by an executive committee, probably elected by the "convention" of master printers held on February 2 (see item 18). This committee was composed of C. A. Alvord (chairman), R. H. Smith, George Mantz, W. C. Martin, John F. Trow, Peter C. Baker, C. S. Westcott, J. J. Hallenbeck, Samuel Booth and Theodore L. DeVinne (secretary). The names of one hundred and thirty-eight printing firms are printed as accepting the price list.

20

Scale of prices as adopted by the New England Franklin Club, Boston, July 1, 1864.

The master printers of Boston and neighboring cities met at Young's Hotel on January 19, 1863, and formed "The New England Association of Printers and Journalists," which found little support, and was reorganized on January 18, 1864, as "The New England Franklin Society." The officers were: Albert J. Wright, president; Albion K. P. Welch, vice-president; John Wilson, Jr., secretary and treasurer; and Alfred Mudge, W. F. Draper (Andover), D. W. Rogers, John C. Farnham (Winthrop), and Daniel Gunn, executive committee. Twenty-eight firms joined as

members, among whom, curiously enough, is found Ezra R. Andrews of Rochester, afterwards (in 1895-96) president of the United Typothetae of America. On April 10, 1864, a committee was elected to prepare a pamphlet giving a "detailed scale of prices of all classes of work which came under the head of Book and Job Printing and Stereotyping." This is the pamphlet here exhibited. While not exactly the same as the scale of prices formulated a little earlier in New York, a good part is reprinted from the New York Scale, and in the preface due acknowledgment is made by the committee of indebtedness to the New York organization, concluding thus: "And they take this opportunity to present their thanks to Theodore L. DeVinne, Esq., for the great service rendered to the craft by his labors in preparing this work."

21

Proposed prices for 1865: "(Proof Sheet for revision only,)" submitted at the meeting of The Typothetae, May 16, 1865, at Dodworth's Hall.

This price list is part of the call for the regular meeting, printed on first page. "We expect to have a good time. Come! Bring a new member if possible."

22

Prices for 1865, adopted by the book and job printers of the City of New York at a general meeting of The Typothetae, May 16, 1865.

This is the first work of The Typothetae. It was not issued until July 13, 1865, the interval being used to bring employing printers into agreement.

23

Prices for 1866, adopted by the book and job printers of the City of New York at a meeting of The Typothetae, April 20, 1866, with list of officers, and members of the Board of Trade.

The Board of Trade was in effect the executive committee of The Typothetae.

24

Circular, dated April 2, 1866: Call for regular meeting of the Board of Trade on April 5, 1866, with list of officers and members.

DeVinne's Price List of 1869: (Proof copy.) The Printers' Price List. A Manual for the use of Clerks and Bookkeepers in Job Printing Offices, by Theo. L. Devinne, New York, 1869.

The preface is an interesting review of trade conditions, and from it we learn that at meetings preliminary to the first banquet of master printers (item No. 1) a four-page pamphlet of prices was adopted. This book of 168 pages is now extremely rare. It is interleaved with writing paper for additions. Only a few copies were printed, primarily for use in DeVinne's own business, with a few for other printers who were thought to have courage enough to hold to fair prices. "It is really the proof of a better edition, in the making of which the writer looks confidently for the aid of every one who takes a copy. . . . His object is . . . to give to the trade . . . a price list that must from its justice be accepted as authority."

DeVinne's Price List of 1871: The Printers' Price List. A Manual for the use of Clerks and Bookkeepers in Job Printing Offices, by Theo. L. Devinne, New York, 1871. The second edition.

This book, invaluable in its time, was the culmination of DeVinne's efforts toward securing profitable prices for printers. He commenced his campaign in 1862.

SOUVENIRS OF THE FIRST PERIOD OF THE TYPOTHETAE

Bill from John W. Oliver for printing the Constitution of The Typothetae.

The billhead is interesting; note the picture of the fast web card press invented by Gordon; "prints, cuts and counts 10,000."

Ticket: The Typothetae, third annual dinner, Maison Dorée, February 20, 1866.

Bill of caterer, third annual dinner, 1866.

30

Circular, dated March 19, 1866: Call for general meeting of the trade to be held March 23, 1866, to consider amendments to Constitution, recognizing "all printers in the city as members, entitled to voice and vote at all meetings, the abolition of all fees and dues, and an increase in the number of directors."

31

Ticket for fourth annual dinner, at Maison Dorée, February 21, 1867, signed by C. A. Alvord.

32

Report of The Typothetae for 1867, opened at the Treasurer's statement.

33

Ticket: The Typothetae, fifth dinner, St. Nicholas, February 21, 1868.

On this card appears for the first time the emblematic device of The Typothetae. This device is still in use. The last dinner of The Typothetae of the first period was held in 1872.

34

Circular, dated November 16, 1867: Call for special meeting of the Board of Trade at Crook's restaurant, November 21, 1867, to consider "the evils of low prices and unfair competition and their remedies."

35

The State of Trade: Observations on Eight Hours and Higher Prices, suggested by recent conferences between the New York Typographical Union and the Employing Book and Job Printers of that city, by Theo. L. De Vinne, New York, 1872.

This is a thorough exposition of the condition of business in 1872, in pp. 44.

Circular, dated June 3, 1876: Call for meeting of employing printers at the Astor House, June 8, 1876, "to consider the Reduced Scale submitted by the Committee of the Typographical Union."

THE TYPOTHETAE REORGANIZED

Circular dated November 19, 1883: Call for a "private preliminary and informal gathering" on November 20, 1883, at the Astor House, "with a view to reviving the old and popular organization of employing book and job printers."

Constitution and rules of order of The Typothetae of New York, reorganized November, 1883. Fifty-four firms constituted the membership.

First account book and register of members of the reorganized Typothetae, opened December 5, 1883.

Visitors' register of The Typothetae, from 1883 to date.

Annual dinner, 1884: Report of annual dinner of The Typothetae of New York, at the Metropolitan Hotel, January 17, 1884; list of members, toasts, and reports of addresses; pamphlet, pp. 14.

Annual dinner, 1885: Report of annual dinner of The Typothetae of New York, at the Hoffman House, January 17, 1885; menu, list of guests and members, and reports of addresses; pamphlet, pp. 11.

43

Annual dinner, 1886: Annual dinner of The Typothetae of the City of New York, at Delmonico's, January 18, 1886; list of guests and members, menu, and reports of addresses; pamphlet, pp. 15.

44

Annual dinner, 1887: Annual dinner of The Typothetae of New York, at Hotel Brunswick, January 17, 1887; list of guests and members, menu, and reports of addresses; pamphlet, pp. 12.

45

Annual dinner, 1888: Annual dinner of The Typothetae of New York, at Hotel Brunswick, January 17, 1888; menu, list of guests and members, reports of addresses; pamphlet, pp. 14.

46

Second convention of the United Typothetae of America: Proceedings of the banquet given by The Typothetae of New York to the delegates to the annual meeting of the United Typothetae of America, Metropolitan Opera House, September 20, 1888; menu, list of guests and members, reports of addresses; pamphlet, pp. 30.

47

Annual dinner, 1889: Annual dinner of The Typothetae of New York, at Hotel Brunswick, January 17, 1889; menu, list of guests and members, reports of addresses; pamphlet, pp. 14.

48

Annual dinner, 1890: Report of annual dinner of The Typothetae of New York, at Hotel Brunswick, January 17, 1890; list of guests and members, and reports of addresses; pamphlet, pp. 20.

49

Annual dinner, 1891: Report of annual dinner of The Ty-

pothetae of New York, at Hotel Brunswick, January 17, 1891; list of guests and members, and reports of addresses; pamphlet, pp. 16.

50

Annual dinner, 1892: Report of annual dinner of The Typothetae of New York, at Hotel Brunswick, January 18, 1892; menu, list of guests and members, and reports of addresses; pamphlet, pp. 12.

51

Annual dinner, 1893: Report of annual dinner of The Typothetae of New York, at Hotel Brunswick, January 17, 1893; list of guests and members, and reports of addresses; pamphlet, pp. 12.

52

Bradford bi-centenary, 1893: Dinner of the printing and allied trades in celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of the introduction of printing in New York by William Bradford, at Delmonico's, April 12, 1893; souvenir, menu; pamphlet, pp. 16.

53

Annual dinner, 1894: Report of annual dinner of The Typothetae of New York, at Hotel Brunswick, January 17, 1894; list of guests, and reports of addresses; pamphlet, pp. 18.

54

Annual dinner, 1895: Report of annual dinner of The Typothetae, at Hotel Brunswick, January 17, 1895; list of guests and members, and reports of addresses; pamphlet, pp. 13.

55

The DeVinne-Franklin medal, 1901; N. D. Brenner, sculptor.
The die for this medal is in the Typographic Library and Museum.

56

Sculptor's model of the DeVinne-Franklin medal, 1901.

57

The De Vinne Typothetae medal, 1912.

58

Collection of badges of The Typothetae of New York and other cities used at international conventions.

59

Charter of The Typothetae of the City of New York, issued by the United Typothetae of America in 1888.

60

Presidents of The Typothetae since 1883 :

- a. William C. Martin, 1883-1890.
- b. Theodore L. De Vinne, 1891-1897.
- c. Joseph J. Little, 1898-1902.
- d. William Green, 1903-1907.
- e. Robert Schalkenbach, 1908-1910.
- f. Edmund Wolcott, 1911-1912.
- g. James W. Bothwell, 1913-1915.

61

Agreement signed by members of The Typothetae of New York preliminary to the strike of 1887.

62

Group of portraits of sixty-two members of The Typothetae of New York in 1891.

EARLY NEW YORK PRINTERS' SOCIETIES

63

Broadside of the Franklin Typographical Association, *circa* 1800: To the master printers of the City of New York; list of prices for composition and presswork.

The earliest known printed scale of prices in New York. Compositors demanded seven dollars a week of twelve hours a day.

64

Certificate of membership on vellum, issued by the Franklin Typographical Association to George Bruce, May 23, 1801.

65

Franklin Typographical Association of New York, 1802: An address on the third anniversary of the Association, on July 5, 1802, by Thomas Ringwood; pamphlet, pp. 22.

66

New York Typographical Society, 1847: An address on civil government, at the Society library lecture-room, February 25, 1847, by Hon. Ely Moore, M.C.; pamphlet, pp. 46.

Ely Moore was a journeyman printer, a member of the Society, and enjoyed celebrity as an orator.

67

New York Typographical Society, 1849: An oration on Franklin at the printers' festival, January 17, 1849, by John L. Jewett; pamphlet, pp. 37.

68

New York Typographical Society, 1850: Proceedings at the printers' banquet, at Niblo's, January 17, 1850; pamphlet, pp. 64.

Contains a history of the Society.

69

Celebration of Franklin's birthday by New York Typographical Society, January 17, 1850, at Niblo's; poster programme.

Very attractive broadside.

70

Celebration of Franklin's birthday by New York Typographical Society, January 17, 1851, at Niblo's; poster programme.

71

Celebration of Franklin's birthday by New York Typographical Society, January 17, 1853; poster announcement.

Very attractive broadside.

38

72

New York Typographical Society, 1856: Constitution and by-laws, with list of officers and members, New York, 1856; pp. 39.

73

Certificate of New York Typographical Society, issued to George Bruce, typefounder, in 1856.

EARLY PRINTERS' SOCIETIES OF OTHER CITIES

74

Company of Stationers, London, 1678: The Orders and Rules and Ordinances ordained, devised and made by the Master and Keepers and Wardens and Comminalty (*sic*) of the Mystery or Art of Stationers of the City of London, for the well governing of that Society, London, 1678; pp. 28.

This is the oldest organization of printers in the world, and is now one of the great companies of London. It was instituted as a guild in 1403; when printing was introduced in England it accepted printers as members; it received a charter in 1556 giving it control of copyrights in Great Britain, which it exercised until 1913; its history is the history of book printing in Great Britain.

75

Boston Franklin Association, 1802: An oration on the art of printing, in Franklin Hall, July 5, 1802, by William Burdick; pamphlet, pp. 31.

76

Faustus Association, Boston, 1808: Address at the annual celebration, October 4, 1808, by John Russell; pamphlet, pp. 23.

77

Franklin Typographical Society of Boston, 1826: Address at the anniversary celebration, January 17, 1826, by Jefferson Clark; pamphlet, pp. 32.

This Society was established in 1824; it is still active; Albert W. Finlay, now president of the U. T. and F. C. of A., is its latest president; it has an extensive library.

78

Franklin Typographical Society of Boston, 1848: Proceedings at the printers' festival at Hancock Hall, January 15, 1848; pamphlet, pp. 100.

Contains a history of the Society.

79

Franklin Typographical Society of Boston, 1850: Constitution and catalogue of library, Boston, 1850; pp. 32.

80

Franklin Typographical Society of Boston, 1860: Order of exercises for the one hundred and fifty-fourth birthday of Franklin, in the Boston Music Hall, January 17, 1860.

A notable occasion; oration by Edward Everett; music by the Handel and Haydn Society.

81

Franklin Typographical Society, 1874: Proceedings at the observance of the semi-centennial of its institution, January 17, 1874, with a brief historical sketch, Boston, 1875; pp. 60.

82

Boston Typographical Society, 1838: Engraved certificate of this Society, the history of which is apparently unknown.

83

List of prices adopted by the journeymen printers of Pittsburgh, January 11, 1836; a facsimile.

Compositor's price per hour, 20 cents; weekly wage, \$7.50, with ten-hour day.

84

Philadelphia Typographical Society: Certificate of Membership, lithograph designed by Sartain, with impressive emblematic picture, size 20x23 inches.

This is the oldest association of printers in America; it is still active; it was established in 1802, and chartered in 1832.

Philadelphia Typographical Society, 1843: The charter and by-laws, with the members' names, and catalogue of the library, Philadelphia, 1843; pp. 52.

Plan of apprenticeships adopted by the Cincinnati Typographical Union, February 15, 1851. (Facsimile; the original in possession of The A. H. Pugh Printing Co., Cincinnati.)

The Cincinnati Typographical Union in 1851 was an employers' association, while the employees' association at that time was The Franklin Society. This is the first agreement formulated in America relating to condition of the apprentices. It is signed by seventeen firms, several of which are still active.

OLD NEW YORK PRINTING HOUSES

Old New York printing offices and printing-press factories:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <i>a.</i> J. & J. Harper. | <i>g.</i> R. Hoe & Co., 1865. |
| <i>b.</i> Harper & Brothers. | <i>h.</i> Old Bible House. |
| <i>c.</i> N.Y. World and Scientific American. | <i>i.</i> New Bible House. |
| <i>d.</i> R. Hoe & Co., 1833. | <i>j.</i> Methodist Publishing Building. |
| <i>e.</i> R. Hoe & Co., 1852. | <i>k.</i> John W. Orr. |
| <i>f.</i> R. Hoe & Co., 1856. | |

Old New York printing offices and printing-press factories:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>a.</i> Day-Book Office. | <i>h.</i> Robert Sears. |
| <i>b.</i> Printing-House Square. | <i>i.</i> Cyrus W. Field & Co. |
| <i>c.</i> Shields' Steam Printery. | <i>j.</i> N.Y. Herald. |
| <i>d.</i> Apprentice Library. | <i>k.</i> John A. Gray & Green. |
| <i>e.</i> Appleton's (exterior). | <i>l.</i> Geo. F. Nesbitt. |
| <i>f.</i> Appleton's (interior). | <i>m.</i> Gordon Press Works. |
| <i>g.</i> Appleton's, Bond Street. | <i>n.</i> Evening Mail. |

Old New York printing and electrotyping plants and typographical souvenirs:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>a. Frank Leslie's Publishing House.</p> <p>b. Crum & Ringler.</p> <p>c. Wm. Denyse & Sons.</p> <p>d. E. P. Coby & Co.</p> <p>e. Jos. P. Felt & Co.</p> <p>f. Francis & Loutrel.</p> <p>g. Lovejoy, Son & Co.</p> | <p>h. Old site of Rhineland Building.</p> <p>i. Bradford celebration, 1863 (three pieces).</p> <p>j. Printers' Erie Canal celebration, 1825.</p> <p>k. Printers' Atlantic cable celebration, 1858.</p> |
|---|--|

Printing-House Square, New York, in 1862: Shows printing offices of Baker & Godwin, Tribune, Times, Bible Society, Currier & Ives, World, etc.

The above comprise only a limited selection from the pictures of printing plants in the Typographic Library and Museum.

PORTRAITS OF PRINTERS OF THE SIXTIES

Editorial staff of New York Tribune in early '50s: Photograph by Brady.

Portraits of Greeley, Bayard Taylor, Thomas McElrath (practical printers), Cleveland, Snow, Dana and Ripley.

Portrait group of American printers, typefounders and press builders, eminent in 1856: Steel engravings by Whitechurch.

New York is represented by John F. Trow, C. A. Alvord (first president of The Typothetae), George F. Nesbitt (whose printing business still continues—the oldest in New York), Edward O. Jenkins, George P. Gordon (then a master printer), George Bruce and James Conner. Boston and Philadelphia are also represented.

BRONZE BUSTS

93

Bronze bust of Franklin, by Boyle, on pedestal.

94

Bronze bust of DeVinne, by Chester Beach.

CURIOSITIES

95

Historic stereo. matrix: One of the set of matrices first used in casting curved plates in America, New York Tribune, August 31, 1861.

96

Second largest newspaper ever printed: The Constellation, New York, 1859.

97

Example of rule-twisting composition; a kind of art with which the printers of 1865 were fortunately not afflicted.

98

Cartoon drawing on the wood by Thomas Nast, leading cartoonist of America of 1865, for Harper's Weekly.

99

Stereotype plate made by the clay process; the kind of book plate most generally used in 1865; superior to plates cast from *papier-maché* matrices.

100

Woodcut engraved by Alexander Anderson, the first American wood-engraver, son of a master printer of New York; born, 1775; died, 1870.

101

Bible of 1846, printed by Harper & Brothers, profusely illustrated, in printing which modern overlays were first used on woodcuts.

PRINTING OF THE FIRST TYPOTHETAE PERIOD

102

Fast travel in 1837: Poster of the pioneer fast line by rail cars and canal packets from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, through in three and one-half days.

103

John F. Trow, 1853: Specimen book of the letterpress, stereotyping and woodcut printing establishment of John F. Trow, 49 Ann Street, New York, 1853; 8vo, pp. 100.

Contains excellent examples of woodcut printing.

104

John F. Trow, 1856: Specimen book of the letterpress, stereotyping, electrotyping and woodcut printing establishment of John F. Trow, 377 and 379 Broadway, corner of White Street, New York, 1856; 8vo, about pp. 200.

He was rated among the best printers of the time, and the pages opened here doubtless represent effort in color printing as supreme as it was ambitious.

105

The specimen book of 1862: Specimen book of printing types from the Chicago Type Foundry, 90 Washington Street, Chicago, 1862.

The first Chicago type specimen book; the only type specimen book issued during the period of the Civil War; the title-page is a characteristic example of the elaborate composition of the period.

106

Collection of business cards in the "highest style of the art," *circa* 1865.

107

Collection of three hundred business cards of New York tradesmen and others, *circa* 1865.

108

Color printing from woodcuts in 1864: "Printed with Wade's letterpress inks, manufactured by H. D. Wade & Co., 50 Ann Street, New York."

109

Charles Shields, *circa* 1865: Specimen of druggists' and other labels engraved and printed by Charles Shields, 23 Platt, corner of Gold Street, New York; 4to.

Contains several hundred specimens. "Original designs and plates of every description executed in the finest style of the art."

110

Geo. C. Rand & Avery, Boston, 1866: An illustrated description of their new plant at No. 3 Cornhill, corner of Washington Street, Boston; 8vo, pp. 150.

Very interesting account of the largest commercial printing plant in America of that period.

111

A famous printing textbook: First edition of Thomas MacKellar's "The American Printer," Philadelphia, 1866.

More than fifty thousand copies of this work were sold; the latest edition was issued in 1889.

112

DeVinne Catalogue of 1867: R. Hoe & Co.'s catalogue of printing machines, New York, 29 and 31 Gold Street, New York, 1867; printed by Francis Hart & Co.

The title-page was doubtless produced under the supervision of DeVinne.

113

Show card of Evans, printer, Philadelphia, *circa* 1865.

An example of the more ambitious color printing from relief blocks at the time The Typothetae was established.

114

Beginnings of process engraving: "A Brief Description of the Art of Anastatic Printing," London, 1870.

115

Rockwell & Churchill, Boston, 1871: Specimens of types used in the office, 122 Washington Street, Boston, 1871; 8vo, pp. 150.

One of the larger plants; all the "art" was centered on the title-page in four colors.

116

Harpel's Typograph or Book of Specimens; . . . A collection of examples of letterpress job printing, by Oscar H. Harpel, Cincinnati, 1870; 8vo, pp. 250.

Book famous in its day; it was "the last word" in the typographic art of the period.

117

Catalogue of builders' hardware, 1871, issued by Mallory, Wheeler & Co., of New Haven.

Undoubtedly the greatest trade catalogue of its time; reported to have cost \$30,000; all articles engraved full-size in wood; and all metals represented by bronzes of various hues.

PRINTING-TRADE PERIODICALS OF THE SIXTIES

118

First independent printing-trade periodical in America: The Printer, October, 1866.

This periodical was established in May, 1858; it was vigorous in 1865; there was no other independent printing-trade periodical at that time.

119

Printers' Circular, Vol. I, No. 1, March 1, 1866.

A vigorous periodical which continued until 1890.

EVOLUTION OF THE PRINTING PRESS

120

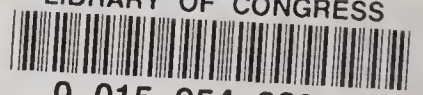
Original pictures illustrating evolution of invention in printing presses, etc.:

- a.* Ancient wooden hand presses, 1450.
- b.* Blaeu's improvement on wooden hand press, 1620.
- c.* Earliest American engraving of a printing press, 1792.
- d.* Stanhope hand press; first all-iron press.
- e.* Clymer's Columbia hand press; first American all-iron hand presses, and first with direct lever action, 1814.
- f.* Wells' hand press, 1819; first of the "Washington" type.
- g.* Ruthven's hand press.
- h.* First numbering machine (Bramah's).
- i.* First self-inking treadle job press; invented by S. P. Ruggles, Boston, 1838.
- j.* Adams' power platen press for news and book printing.
- k.* Early Gordon presses.
- l.* First successful cylinder press (Koenig's, 1814).
- m.* First hand-power cylinder press (Rutt's, 1819).
- n.* Early drum cylinder press, 1840.
- o.* Early three-revolution press.
- p.* Early two-revolution press.
- q.* First sheet perfecting press.
- r.* First fast rotary sheet-feed newspaper press (Hoe's Lightning press, 1847, with ten cylinders and ten feeders).
- s.* First successful web perfecting press (Bullock's, 1863).

BY AUTHORITY FROM THE NEW YORK TYPOTHETAE
THIS BOOK WAS ARRANGED IN CLOISTER TYPES BY
THE TYPOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN
TYPE FOUNDERS COMPANY AFTER PLANS BY EDMUND G.
GRESS IN THE YEAR NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



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